



CAMP WYANDOT

Fun and Friendships in the Great Outdoors

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Important Dates:

- Wyandot Day Camp (June 9-August 15)
- Wyandot Overnight Camp (June 22-July 26)
- Annual Flower Sale (Deadline Thursday, April 10. Pick up Saturday, May 10)
- Work Weekend (April 25-27 and June 6-8)
- Spring Skills Weekend (May 17-18)
- Memorial Weekend Family Camping (May 24-26)
- Family 4th of July Celebration (July 3-5)
- Alumni Weekend (August 15-17)
- Halloween in the Hills (October 18-19)
- Annual Benefit Luncheon (Saturday, November 15, Villa Milano)

Alumni News

March 2014

Spring Edition

A Word from Our New Board Chair, Pete Lytle

I'm proud to be the new chair of Camp Wyandot's Board of Directors. First, I would like to thank the outgoing chair, Nikki Spretnak, for shepherding the organization through some major changes this past year. With her strong leadership, our future is bright, and I'm excited about the work we can do together in the coming year. Nikki will continue to serve on our Board as Treasurer.

I would also like to welcome the new board members voted on in January by the Camp Wyandot membership: Benjamin Searfos, Megan Livesay, and Nichole Braun.

Now a little bit about me: I am a software developer for a local company and my wife and I live in Upper Arlington. I have been a Board member for two years, but my history with the organization reaches further back. I attended Camp Wyandot for one summer during my youth; my mother was a camper, CIT, and counselor at Camp Wyandot; and her mother was a Camp Fire Girls leader during the 1950s and 60s.

During my time as a board member, the commitment from the alumni of the organization continues to impress me. The long history of the group and its connection to the past is unlike many other nonprofits and is part of what makes Camp Wyandot, Inc. so special. I believe, like all of you, in the commitment of Camp Wyandot to promote outdoor education while instilling leadership skills, community responsibility, and self-awareness in young people, and I have come to appreciate the outstanding value in what the camp experience provides. From teamwork, exposure to new friendships and activities, and an opportunity to learn outside their comfort zone, Camp Wyandot fulfills a real need for children in the community.



I have two complementary goals for the organization: (1) improve management of donor and client records and (2) creation of a long-term, sustainable, and realistic plan for fundraising. Improved track-

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Summer Camp Brings Friends Together

When we asked campers how they heard about Wyandot Day and Overnight Camps, the vast majority said through their friends. This year in recognition of lasting camp friendships, we have a special Camp Friend Rebate promotion. A returning camper can

bring a friend who is new to Wyandot Day or Overnight Camp and both will receive a rebate (\$20.00 for Day Camp and \$50 for a Regular Session and \$25.00 for 3 ½ Days Session for Overnight Camp). The Camp Friend Rebate is only valid for

non-immediate family members or friends and requires that both campers attend camp.

Wyandot Day Camp (June 9 – August 15) will offer nine weeks of camp and each theme will focus around the field trip it of-

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A Word from Our New Board Chair, Pete Lytle

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ing of alumni allows us to have a foundation for fundraising and a vibrant volunteer base, as well as, sustain our history and connection to our traditions. With this in mind, I have built a customized database to manage all donor records and other data, including our summer camp registrations and programs for this year. My goal is to ensure that together we all work as effectively as possible and maximize the time, skills, and tal-

ent that you all have to offer.

We have a talented board, a committed group of members and alumni, an outstanding executive director, and dedicated staff- with everyone working together, the future of Camp Wyandot is bright. Thank you for your continued support.

-Pete Lytle
Board Chair

Summer Camp Brings Friends Together

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fers. Field trips include the Franklin Park Conservatory, Perkins Observatory, The Ohio State University, Olen-tangy Indian Caverns to name a few. We will also have special guests providing hands on activities from a range of environmental organizations including the Del-aware Soil and Water Conservation District, TREE (Terrific Resources for Environmental Education of Central Ohio), and ODNR (Ohio Department of Natural Re-sources)-Division of Wildlife.

After three years at Day Camp and one year as Director at Camp Wyandot, Daniel Juarez will be leaving to pursue a full-time position at Stafford Technology. We wish him well on his new journey. We are currently accepting applications for positions at Day Camp.

Wyandot Overnight Camp (June 22 – July 26) is offering five weeks of camp including Mini Trails for grades 2-5 and special teen sessions with a focus on arts, back-packing, and a canoe trip. Applications are now being accepted for positions at Overnight Camp.

We hope to partner again this year with Gladden Community House and the Clintonville-Beechwold Community Resources Center to offer camperships to families who could not otherwise afford to send their children to camp, funded by the Columbus Youth Foundation. For the first time, we are also partnering with Neighborhood House which serves Near East Columbus to



provide camperships funded by the Barbasol Foundation. Our community partnerships help us to reach youth that can truly benefit from the opportunity and we can continue to create an inclusive and diverse camp communi-ty. Additionally, the financial assistance we offer to re-duce the cost of camp for low-income families is made possible through the generous support of our alumni (through fundraisers and events). By being in a nurturing environment with their peers in our camp programs, the youth can receive positive reinforcement, encouragement, and support that recognize their ability to succeed in school, life, and their future.

As we get ready for camp we have a number of items on our wish list including: two way radios, backpack inflatable pillows, internal frame packs, foam targets for archery, natural gas whole house generator, and fishing equip-ment. Please visit our website at www.campwyandot.org for our full list of items on our wish list or to make a dona-tion.

As we look forward to a new summer camp season, we are thankful for the alumni and traditions that have contribut-ed to the spirit and foundation of what our programs are today and energized as we continue to expand our com-munity and build its diversity.



Wyandot Explorer Clubs Launches Anew

We launched our new Wyandot Explorer Club program in November 2013 and since then we now have ten active clubs. The Wyandot Explorer Club program has an organized framework for building competencies in four Explorer Categories to provide members with the opportunity to make choices, explore many interests, and develop new skills. The categories are:

- **Community Exploration** to help youth learn about all the communities they belong to (camp, local, world etc.), develop compassion and a desire to give service
- **Self Exploration** to help youth develop leadership and relationship skills and have a better understanding of how food and fitness affects their health, both physically and mentally
- **Environmental and Science Exploration** to help youth participate in a progression of nature and outdoor living skills and stimulate interest in science and technology

- **Creative Exploration** to help youth explore the arts, stimulate their imagination, and creativity, and develop appreciation and/or presentation skills

In February 2014, Camp Wyandot hosted its first Bead Fair as Wyandot Explorers with a new format at Columbus Mennonite Church in Clintonville including four structured activities, one for each category. Over 65 children and adults attended as we welcomed new people to the club program. Special guests included Beatrice Bachleda from Yoga-Well-Being who taught yoga for our Self Exploration Activity and Derek Mortland, the Governor's Artist of the Year for 2009, who accompanied the sing-a-long on his guitar with our Explorers led by club leader Lisa Graham. Our dedicated volunteers Marie Trudeau and Jeanene Dixon also helped make our event a success.

The next club program is our annual Spring Skills to be held at Camp Wyandot, May 17-18, 2014 where participants will enjoy a day of nature study and outdoor living skills.

Celebrate National Volunteer Week! April 6-12, 2014

As we celebrate National Volunteer Week, we would like to recognize the following volunteers who have helped us so far this year: Rick Grawemeyer, Jeff Redfield, Alice Hohl, Sharron Arnold, Jeanene Dixon, Sue Lavitchka, Marie Trudeau, Lisa Graham, and our volunteer Board of Directors

Wyandot Explorer Leaders: Emily Adesiji, Ingrid Biery, Emily Bruskotter, Christine Davidson, Missy Donovan, Lisa Graham, Alice Hohl, Ali Laughbaum, Diane Meves, Eric Mumper, Connie Warren

Thank you to all of our volunteers for making a difference!

What can you do to observe National Volunteer Week?

- Volunteer for our work weekends in April or June
- Volunteer with one of our camp or club programs
- Serve on the Nominating, Luncheon or Alumni Committees
- Promote Camp Wyandot's summer camps and programs to friends, family, and colleagues

Contact the office today to see how you can make a difference and for more information on our volunteer opportunities at info@campwyandot.org or 614-481-8227.

Join us for Weekends at Camp Wyandot

Work Weekend April 25-27 and June 6-8, 2014

Join us as we prepare camp for the spring and summer season. Bring your family and friends for a beautiful weekend in the Hocking Hills! There is no cost to attend but you will be working. As this is a "work weekend", children should be able to participate with the work projects as well. Although there is no cost to you, please register online.

Family Weekends at Camp Wyandot

We offer special programs for families with scheduled activities with your whole family in your own cabin. For the evening of the 4th of July, there will be a special celebration for the whole camp.

-Memorial Weekend Family Camping, May 24-26

-Family 4th of July Celebration, July 3-5

Alumni Weekend, August 15-17, 2014

Breathe in the air and spirit of Camp Wyandot and share your special memories with friends and family, reunite with alumni, and extend your network as we embrace the Camp Wyandot community.

Halloween In The Hills, October 18-19, 2014

This is a great family event with a variety of activities including games, trick-or-treating and the not-so-scary haunted house. Costumes are encouraged!

Camp Wyandot, Inc.

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Visit us on the web!
campwyandot.org

Keep Up to Date and Connected

Sign up on our website to register as part of our alumni network to receive our monthly news blasts via email.

Join the Alumni Committee and help to organize activities and events.

Become a member of Camp Wyandot, Inc. and receive free daytime access to Camp Wyandot (reservation must be made in advance), ability to vote on Board

members, members of the nominating committee, and other important issues.

Register as a member on our website or by calling the office. Membership is open to all adults 18 years or older. Annual individual memberships are \$25 or \$45 for family memberships.



Camp Wyandot Available for Rent

Our beautiful camp in the Hocking Hills is available to rent for alumni, groups, and for special events like weddings and conferences. Water is available from mid-April to mid-October and our specialty cabins have heat and electricity. We can provide meals for groups in the dining hall, as well as, nature programs, swimming, and canoeing. Contact the office for rates or to make a reservation.

A day visit to Camp Wyandot is \$3 per person, but free for current members. If you would like to drop by for a day hike or just take a walk down memory lane at camp, remember to please notify us at least one week in advance by calling the office at 614-481-8227.

In Memoriam

Mary Lou Beery (1927-2013) was a lifetime member of Camp Fire and volunteered with Camp Fire at the Ohio State Fair for 40 years.

Donna S. Chapman (1925-2013) was a dedicated Camp Fire Club Leader for twelve years.

Linda F. "Tick" Flynn (1949-2013) was a club member, leader, board member, volunteer, and staff member. As the Aquatics Director at Camp Wyandot, Linda taught countless numbers of children how to swim.

Don E. Jenks (1926-2013) was the designer of the caretaker's house,

served on the Board of Directors as Camp Property Chairman, and was a mentor to generations of campers.

Vicki Ann "Windsong" Nolan (1949-2014) was a dedicated Camp Fire volunteer as a club leader, chairperson of the leader's association, and as a volunteer counselor.

Louise M. Rooney (1931-2014) was a nurse and counselor at Camp Wyandot.

We shall never forget and words cannot express our appreciation for the many years of dedication and service that these Wyandot community members have provided.

10th Annual Camp Wyandot Luncheon

Saturday, November 15, 2014
11:00 a.m. to 2:00 pm

Villa Milano Banquet & Conference Center-1630 Schrock Rd., Columbus, OH, 43229

Come early to socialize, admire memorabilia, and make your bids for the silent auction. Lunch is from noon-1:00 pm.

Attend as an individual or gather a group of friends and reserve a table.

Cost? You decide. There is no preset price for the luncheon. If after the program about Camp Wyandot, you wish to nurture our growth and support our programs with an additional donation, great! It's up to you. Remember though, you can make a difference!

If you would like to volunteer to serve on the luncheon committee or help with the silent auction, please contact the office at info@campwyandot.org or 614-481-8227.